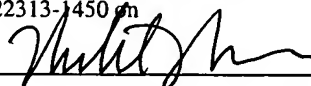


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| <p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING</p> <p>Express Mail Label No. <u>EL892328499US</u></p> <p>Date of Deposit <u>4-8-2004</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p> <p align="center"></p> <p>By <u>MICHAEL MOORES</u></p> | |
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Appln. No. | : | To be assigned | Confirmation No.: |
| Applicant | : | J. Wallace Parce et al. | |
| Filed | : | Herewith | |
| TC/A.U. | : | To be assigned | |
| Examiner | : | To be assigned | |
| | | | |
| Docket No. | : | 100/00328 | |
| Customer No. | : | 021569 | |
| Title: | | High Throughput Screening Assay Systems in Microscale Fluidic Devices | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.